

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
FY15 NWQI Chambers Creek**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application
Ranking Tool: FY15 NWQI Chambers Creek		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	10 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	

3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	10 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:- Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)

Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does the application include core conservation practices that will be implemented within 1/4 mile of a stream or water body that is threatened (i.e., receives significant runoff of excess nitrogen and/or phosphorus), on the EQP 303(d) list or is impaired with a TMDL in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list (or other critical stream or water body authorized by the Regional Conservationist)?	150 Point(s)
2. Are core conservation practices planned on the offered acres? i. Greater than 75% of the offered acres are within the focused watershed AND ii. Greater than 75% of the offered acres have a core conservation practice planned for application.	125 Point(s)
3. Are core conservation practices planned within an existing State agency or other non-USDA water quality project area addressing the same or similar pollutants?	75 Point(s)
4. Does this program application include the implementation of a system of conservation practices which address the primary watershed impairments?	50 Point(s)

5. Are core conservation practices to be implemented on offered acres with a majority of soil types that are classified hydrologic group D (high runoff) or group A (high infiltration)?	50 Point(s)
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Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does this application contain as a minimum at least one or more of the conservation systems as described below. 1) Cropland with Cover Crop (340) and Residue & Tillage Management, No Till or Strip Till (329) 2) Cropland Conversion to Permanent Grass for Hay Production: Cover Crop (340) and Forage and Biomass Planting (512) 3) Cropland Conversion to Permanent Grass for Grazing: Cover Crop (340), Forage and Biomass Planting (512), and Prescribed Grazing (528) 4) Cropland - Establishing Buffer(s) along a stream: Cover Crop (340) and Riparian Herbaceous Buffer (390) 5) Grazingland with Grazing System: Prescribed Grazing (528) 6) Pastureland with/ Cover Crop and Grazing System: Cover Crop (340) and Prescribed Grazing (528)	100 Point(s)
2. Does the land unit contain a riparian area or streams that will be managed as a separate grazing management unit?	75 Point(s)
3. Are planned conservation practices within a ¼ mile of a blue line stream (any blue line) on the USGS topographic map within the targeted watersheds?	50 Point(s)
Does this application convert cultivated cropland to a perennial vegetative cover? Answer only one of 4a or 4b.	
4. a. Plant a native species mix utilizing the conservation practice 512, 550, 390, or 327	30 Point(s)
4. b. Plant an introduced grass species utilizing the conservation practice 512	25 Point(s)

Number:
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